THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) Silkwaste is classified as a free item in the Import-Export Policy. Exports of silkwaste from India in 1997-98 (Prov.) were 1600 tonnes, out of which 53 tonnes were exported to China & 304 tonnes to Hong Kong. The average FOB price of the undegummed silkwaste per kg. was of the order of $ 4.6 in April 1997 and has touched about $ 7 now. The import of silkwaste was of the order of 116 tonnes (carded or combed is 99 tonnes and not carded or combed is 17 tonnes) with an average price per kg. of about $ 13.6 (carded or combed) and $ 4.7 (not carded or combed) respectively in the year 1997-98. Out of this the import of silkwaste from China was 107 tonnes. Based on the above data, it would be difficult to conclude that China has started an unscrupulous business in silkwaste trade with India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government keeps close watch on the situation and as and when situation warrants, necessary remedial measures will be taken.

Silkwaste by Spun Silk Factories

1642. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of spun silk factories consuming silkwaste in the country;

(b) what is their production capacity;

(c) the quantity of silkwaste used by these factories;

(d) what is the export value of the produce; and

(e) what is the value addition?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) The number of organised spun silk mills in the country are 20 including one EOU which has recently gone into production.

(b) Their installed production capacity is 46480 spindles for spun silk yarn and 7450 spindles for noil yarn.

(c) The annual consumption of silkwaste by these units generally ranges between 2500 to 3500 tonnes. During 1997-98 (April—February) the actual consumption was 2465 tonnes.

(d) Exports are of mostly of silkwaste and silk carpets. Average export value of silkwaste and carpets for the year 1997-98 are Rs. 200 per Kg. and Rs. 8544 per sq. meter respectively.

(e) The value of a carpet as of now is about three times the cost of the silkwaste input. In the case of spun silk yarn because of the current high silk waste prices, the value addition is negligible.

New Textile Policy

1643. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:
SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate an expert group to give a fresh look on the textile policy;

(b) whether Government have set up any expert group for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details of changes Government propose in the policy; and

(d) by when the new policy would be announced and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (d) It has been decided to set up expert group under the Chairmanship of Shri S.R. Sathyam for the purpose of enabling the formulation of a new textile policy. The composition and the terms of reference are under finalization.

रेशम उत्पादन हेतु जापान की सहायता

1644. **श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव:** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश के छत्तीसगढ़ क्षेत्र में रेशम उत्पादन के विकास हेतु जापान द्वारा स्वीकृत परियोजना की लागत कितनी है;